



Why is the study of Citizenship Studies important?

Citizenship is vital in the education of all students, developing the knowledge, skills and understanding required to play a full and active part in society. AQA GCSE Citizenship Studies (8100) explores the fundamental principles and processes that allow society to function, resulting in a deeper understanding and keener awareness of democracy, government, international organisations, law, the legal system, criminality, rights and responsibilities. Citizenship studies has academic rigour and lessons enable students to explore political and social issues critically, to weigh evidence, debate and make reasoned arguments, as well as preparing students to take their place in society as responsible and active citizens.

Through the study of GCSE Citizenship Studies you will develop the following skills:

There are also a number of other useful resources which students can explore;

- Formulating hypothesis, creating reasoned and sustained arguments leading to clear conclusions about Citizenship issues
- Identifying and researching Citizenship questions to analyse citizenship ideas, issues and debates as part of a Citizenship enquiry
- Identifying and analysing methods and approaches used to address practical Citizenship issues in society
- Presenting personal ideas and other viewpoints in relation to Citizenship issues, causes and situations.
- Planning and undertaking practical Citizenship actions aimed at delivering benefit or change for others in society
- Critical evaluation of active Citizenship actions

What will you know and understand from your study of Citizenship Studies?

AQA GCSE Citizenship Studies (8100) explores 'How citizens can try to make a difference' through the study of three themes.

Theme 1 - Life in modern Britain. This theme looks at the composition and dynamics of contemporary society, what it means to be British and the role of the media and the UK's role on the world stage.

Theme 2 - Rights and responsibilities. This theme looks at the nature of laws, rights and responsibilities within the UK and globally through the study of the nature of international laws, treaties and agreements by which the UK abides.

Theme 3 - Politics and participation. This theme develops understanding of the political process, the knowledge and skills necessary to understand how to resolve issues, bring about change, and how the empowered citizen is at the heart of our society.

How can you deepen your understanding of Citizenship Studies?

GCSE Citizenship Studies provides a wealth of opportunity for enrichment. Lessons may include mock parliaments, mock courts or trials and staged debates. It is useful for students to visit local court(s) and, if possible, the Houses of Parliament. Students are required to write to their Local Member of Parliament or councillors who in turn are expected to respond and MPs may visit the Academy to speak to students in person.

Students are expected to become Active Citizens as part of this course. This means students take steps to address an issue they are interested in and affect positive change. Some lesson-time will be available but after school enrichment sessions will be a valuable resource in supporting students to achieve this aim.

Students should aim to enhance their awareness of Citizenship issues, including current political debate, world issues, local concerns and the law.

<https://parliamentlive.tv/Commons> - Allows you to watch what is happening in the Houses of Parliament

<https://www.parliament.uk/teach> - Provides a range of helpful guides and booklet explaining how Parliament works

<https://active-citizens.britishcouncil.org/> - A great resource for learning about Active Citizenship

<https://www.gov.uk/find-local-council> - Students can find their local council's website here and learn more about their role and responsibilities

<https://www.amnesty.org.uk/what-are-human-rights> - A great resource for learning about Human Rights

How are you assessed in Citizenship Studies?

There are 6 assessment points each year that we term Praising Stars®. We assess how students at their current stage of study are on track to reach their end of stage targets which are formulated on aspirational expectation from their KS2 starting points. We make an informed prediction from our holistic assessments based on our subject mapping of expectation across the GCSE Citizenship Studies curriculum.

Key Assessment Objectives

AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of citizenship concepts, terms, and issues.

AO2: Apply knowledge and understanding of citizenship concepts, terms and issues to contexts and actions.

AO3: Analyse and evaluate a range of evidence relating to citizenship issues, debates and actions, including different viewpoints, to develop reasoned, coherent arguments and make substantiated judgements.

Study of Citizenship Studies can lead to a wide range of careers:

- Politics
- Journalism
- The travel industry
- Police
- Medicine
- Social Care
- Law
- TV and Film research
- Public services
- Education
- Health Care

AQA Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Citizenship Studies Course Overview

Term	Year 1	Year 2
Autumn 1	Life in Modern Britain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principles and values in Modern Britain • Identity • The media and the free press 	Life in Modern Britain - revision and active citizenship case studies Rights and Responsibilities - revision and active citizenship case studies Politics and Participation - revision and active citizenship case studies
Autumn 2	Life in Modern Britain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UK's role in key international organisations • Making a difference in society 	Active Citizenship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deciding the Issue • Research and Analysis • Planning the Action • Taking the Action • Evaluation
Spring 1	Rights and Responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laws in contemporary society • The legal system • Protecting citizens and dealing with criminals 	Revision and exam preparation
Spring 2	Rights and Responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universal Human Rights • Bringing about change in the legal system 	Revision and exam preparation
Summer 1	Politics and Participation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political Power in the UK • Local and devolved government • Where does political power reside? 	Revision and exam preparation
Summer 2	Politics and Participation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do others govern themselves • Bringing about political change 	Revision and exam preparation